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HONG KONG, HONG KONG, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1946.

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## NEW LIQUOR AND TOBACCO DUTIES

### Doubling Of Rate On Whisky And Gin

#### Retail Price Should Not Be Affected

New duties on liquor and tobacco—in the case of the former the duty is double the old rate—came into force in Hong Kong yesterday. The new duties, according to the Financial Secretary, the Hon Mr. C. G. S. Follows, who moved the implementation of the new scale in Legislative Council, will provide an extra \$7,000,000 in revenue next year.

Mr. Follows added that it was the considered opinion of Government that the increases in duty could and should in the main be absorbed by importers and retailers, and that the price of most sorts of liquor to the public should not be altered.

The motion was seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. R. R. Todd, and carried unanimously.

"Honourable Members will recollect that in winding up the debate on the second reading of the Appropriation Bill, Your Excellency, in announcing your intention to appoint a Taxation Committee, referred to a paramount consideration on which the attention of each one of us should be fixed. This was the duty that we owed to use every effort to reduce as far as we might, both in extent and in duration of time, our dependence on His Majesty's Government for financial aid to meet the difference between our revenue and our recurrent expenditure."

"Two proposals for the raising of additional revenue have already been laid before this Honourable Council. A more obvious method of closing part of the gap between expenditure and revenue was an increase in the duties levied on liquor and tobacco which, although increased in 1941, are still below the average level in other British Colonies."

**Approved By Committee**

"For obvious reasons it is not possible to provide for prolonged discussions prior to the introduction of a measure of this sort and yesterday afternoon certain proposals which had been carefully considered by Your Excellency and your advisers were placed before the Taxation Committee. These proposals are embodied in the draft resolution which has been circulated to Honourable Members. Your Excellency, as President of this Honourable Council, has given permission for its introduction with something less than the usual period of notice."

"The proposals contained in the draft resolution were discussed by the Taxation Committee yesterday and met with the approval of that body. Thereafter, in order to bridge the gap until the necessary resolution could be introduced into this Honourable Council, I submitted to Your Excellency an Order under the Revenue Protection Ordinance bringing the new duties into force with effect from 9 a.m. this morning. That Order remains in force until this Honourable Council has dealt with the resolution now before it."

#### Rate Doubled

"The proposals contained in the resolution represent in the main a doubling of the Empire rate of duty on liquor with a corresponding increase in the full rate of duty so that the margin between the two rates is maintained. This sounds very formidable but in actual fact it will only bring the duty on Whisky to \$6.20 a bottle and on Brandy of foreign origin to \$6.60 a bottle."

"It is the considered opinion of this Government that these increases in duty can and should in the main be absorbed by importers and retailers, and that the prices of most sorts of liquor to the public should not be altered. A meeting will be held between the Price Controller and importers and retailers with a view to achieving this end."

"It was felt that Beer would not stand the same increase in duty as other forms of liquor. Malt, hops and bottles are hard to come by and can only be obtained in limited quantities at high prices. Both locally-made and imported beer is expensive locally, although prices are controlled, and the conclusion was reached that only a 25 per cent increase in duty would be justified."

#### Tobacco Duties

"We now come to the duties on tobacco, which represent an increase of 50 per cent though this duty on cigars not manufactured in the Empire has been increased by 75 per cent. This will go to some extent against local cigar factories when they are re-established, but as in the case of liquor this Government is of the opinion that the increases in duty on tobacco

(Continued on Page 8)

#### CHIANG'S POLITICAL TWILIGHT?

Nanking, Nov. 28. In presenting the revised draft constitution to the National Assembly today, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who has guided the destinies of China for the past 20 years, said that the occasion marked the twilight of his political career.

The Generalissimo, addressing more than a thousand delegates, said: "This presentation of the draft constitution to the National Assembly marks the end of the responsibility of the National Government and the beginning of government by the people."

Now that the National Assembly had taken over the responsibility of government, he considered his political career at an end.

He added: "I am 60 years old now. In the past 13 years since Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death, I have been entrusted with the responsibility of Government. Now that the National Assembly has taken over, I have no more ambitions."

Handing over the revised draft constitution to Dr. Hu Shih, Chancellor of the Peking National University and former Ambassador to the United States, who presided, Generalissimo Chiang in a 20-minute speech favoured the plan favoured by other parties to allow the present cabinet under M. Georges Bidault to carry on until January.

The Central Committee also offered to give all active Socialist Party members agreeing to join the Communist Party the same rights and standing as those they enjoyed in the Socialist Party.

Socialists willing to turn Communist would have the same claim to executive posts in the Communist Party as if they had been members from the time they joined the Socialist Party.—Reuter.

Tehran political and diplomatic circles were unusually tense today as the people realized the imminent possibility of civil war.

M. Ivan Sadehikov, Soviet Ambassador, was reliably reported to have called on the Shah and to have lodged a complaint against "the unfriendly policy towards the Soviet Government" of Ghamvar Es Sultaneh, the Prime Minister, quickly reacted by sending a cable to Dr. David, Governor-General of Azerbaijan, former "home rule" province, that all agreements between the provinces and the Central Government were no longer valid.

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# HK Cable Theft Case

The theft of five miles of cable from the seabed off Lamma Island in British waters, involving Cable and Wireless in an overall loss of £13,754 was described in Kowloon Court yesterday when four fishermen pleaded guilty to the larceny of 150 fathoms of cable that had been recovered.

Ho Tai-hi, 26, junk master, was sentenced to two years' hard labour and the other three accused to 18 months' hard labour.

Insp. Askew, prosecuting, said that at 7.30 p.m. on Oct. 22 it was discovered that the Hong Kong-Singapore cable would not function. On Oct. 24, the cable ship "Pacific" investigated following tests which showed that the break was near Hong Kong. On the following day the "Pacific" reported a break about 400 fathoms from the shore at Tai Ho Wan.

On raising the cable, it was discovered it had been cut with a hacksaw. The break was repaired but the line would not function and further investigation revealed two further cuts just off Lamma Island. Repairs were effected and the line was restored.

On Oct. 31 the cable went out of action once more and it was discovered that it had again been cut with a hacksaw. A communication was received from the Macao Police that a junk had been detained there with 150 fathoms of electric cable on board. Accused were brought to Hong Kong and charged.

Five miles of cable actually was stolen, to a value of £4,204. Cost of repairs and relaying amounted to £9,400, the actual overall cost involving £13,754.

## Tramway Bill Passed

The Bill to amend the Tramway Ordinance 1902 passed its first reading in Legislative Council yesterday.

Moving the resolution the Hon. Attorney General said that the purpose of the Bill was fully set out in the objects and reasons and he had nothing to add except that the Tramway Company, as far as he could ascertain, was the only public utility company which could not vary the scale of fares with the consent of the Governor in Council, and power was given in the Ordinance to avoid the cumbersome process of having to amend the Ordinance should there be a need for a variation in future.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded the motion.

## Cheated His Customers

Cheng Chuen, 31, of the Wing Hing Loong Rice shop, 429 Hennessy Road (a Government Distributing centre) was brought before Mr. F. X. Almada at the Central Magistracy yesterday, on charges of false pretences and cheating his customers on November 26.

It was alleged that a soap dealer went to the shop with three ration cards and obtained three lengths of cloth, which should have measured 16 feet 6 inches. When he measured the cloth, he found it was three inches short in all three lengths.

Defendant was fined \$250 or one month's hard labour.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

The following passengers arrived from Singapore by B.O.A.C. flying boat yesterday:—Messrs. Kwok Chan (Chinese Chamber of Commerce), Mr. P. F. S. Court, Mr. H. F. Riches, Michael S/O Loh, Mr. Reid, Godfrie, Mr. Col. Newell, Miss Woodhouse, Miss Chung Meeson and Mrs. Mak Ping-ru.

Due to arrive from the United Kingdom by B.O.A.C. today are: Messrs. Weber, Khor Gardner and Field, with Messrs. Rich Tak, Blanchard and Miss Walker in transit to Shantou.

Latest arrivals in the Peninsula Hotel include Mr. & Mrs. Kaufman, Dr. and Mrs. P. F. S. Court, Mr. H. F. Riches, Col. D. C. Colville (Kings' Messenger), Mr. J. Zylstra, Mr. Van Laethem, Mr. Massicot, Mr. R. Hawley, Mr. W. A. Anderson & Miss Louise Bechtling.

Departure from the Peninsula Hotel included Mr. & Mrs. G. T. Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. G. A. Miller, Mr. W. C. Parrish, Miss Clegg & Miss M. Duncan, Mr. M. Dennis & Mr. J. C. Bedford.

# URGENT APPEAL BY D.M.S.

## HKVDC ORDERS

Orders by Lieut.-Col. E.H.K. Michell, O.B.E., ED, Commanding HKVDC Corps, Nov. 26, 1946, Hong Kong, W.C. 1.

1. Personal Effects. Entitled to be issued to a deceased member of the HKVDC, found at Queen Mary Hospital.

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## China's Key Air Position

Washington, Nov. 28.—China appears to be occupying the key position in the American efforts to establish round-the-world air services.

William M. Robertson, assistant administrator of the United States Aeronautics Administration, has just returned from an Orient tour and says:—"The establishment of hoped-for services is dependent upon the successful negotiations now underway with China for reciprocal air landing rights."

Robertson expressed the hope that the services would be "operating within four months."

He said CAA is establishing offices in Tokyo, Manila, Shanghai, Sydney and "somewhere in India" to supervise safety matters before the services are inaugurated.—Associated Press.

## Film Strips For China

Hollywood, Nov. 27.—James Wong Howe, one of Hollywood's leading cameramen, is making a special series of film strips to be used by the Government of his native China in a programme of mass education and in the instruction of Chinese movie technicians.

Howe's project was inspired by Chen Tien-cheng, Chinese cinematographer now studying with Howe here. Chen will take the strips back to China in the Spring.

The film, Chen said, will be useful in acquainting Chinese film makers with American methods of handling such problems as lighting of sets, use of lenses and photographing scenes on location.—Associated Press.

## Canadian Stowaways

Two Canadians who had stowed away on the ss. "Marine Lynx" from San Francisco were committed by the Magistrate, Mr. W. H. Latimer, at Kowloon Court yesterday to the House of Detention pending their signing of ship's articles.

The two defendants, who pleaded guilty, were Jack Harrison, 22, and Vincent Paul Valenti, 24. Insp. Askew, prosecuting, said it appeared they had originally some money which they exhausted after being here for some time. They were arrested after presenting themselves at the Kowloon Docks in search of a job.

The evening's gramophone recital in the Forces Education Centre (St. Joseph's College) will consist of:—"Coriolan" Overture (Beethoven); Concerto in E minor for piano and orchestra (Chopin); Variations on a theme of Paganini (Brahms); violin Sonata in A (Handel). The concert starts at 8 p.m. and civilians as well as service personnel are cordially invited. The canteen will be open during the interval.

### "JANE"



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



Turning Things Around

BY EDGAR MARTIN

## MR. M. K. LO RAISES OBJECTION TO FIREARMS BILL

The Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo voiced objection to the Summary Offences Amendment Ordinance 1946, which passed its second and third reading at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council. He said the Bill was aimed not at illegal users of imitation firearms, who were already dealt with under the Arms and Ammunition Amendment Ordinance, 1946, but at innocent possessors and users.

After the Hon. Attorney General had moved the second reading of the Bill, the Hon. Mr. Lo said:

"Before dealing with the Objects of this Bill I feel it is important to keep clearly in mind the object which is not aimed at by the Bill. I take it to be common ground that what I may term the illegal user of imitation firearms is not aimed at by the Bill, for it is already dealt with by the Arms and Ammunition Amendment Ordinance, No. 21 of 1946, which makes it an offence for any person:

(1) To make use of any imitation firearms to resist arrest;

(2) To be in possession of any imitation firearms at the time of his committing, or at the time of his apprehension for, any of the offences specified in the Schedule (unless he can prove that he had it in his possession for a lawful object).

"This Bill is therefore solely concerned with innocent possession and innocent user. What are the reasons for this Bill? As far as I can make out there are two, and these are set out in paragraph 2 of the Objects and Reasons:

**Cargo Imported**

(1)—Imitation firearms have been used in the commission of robberies.

(2)—Recently certain manufacturers have been making toy pistols which have every appearance of being a lethal weapon.

One large cargo of these weapons was recently imported into the Colony and it is feared that if this measure does not become law more will be imported.

**Concessions Made**

Replies for Government the Hon. Attorney-General said:

"I think I have explained at the previous reading that this Bill comes forward as a suggestion not only from Government but also from the Chief Justice and that His Honour had made that suggestion following cases before him in which imitation firearms of this kind had been used in the commission of robbery.

"Coming now to the first reason, I must confess that to me it is singularly unconvincing. No details have been given as to the number of robberies in which imitation firearms have been used, as compared with the total number of robberies which have taken place. There is no hint that this measure is required by the Police in dealing with Robberies.

Since the use of imitation firearms in connection with robberies has already been dealt with by legislation, the only justification for this measure, so far as robbers are concerned, must be that robbers may find it a little more difficult in getting hold of imitation firearms if this Bill were passed. As they appear to have little difficulty in possessing real weapons I cannot persuade myself that they would have much difficulty in getting imitation firearms if they wanted to do so. In short, I doubt whether this measure will make any contribution

## Harriman Hits At Defeatism

New York, Nov. 27.

Secretary of Commerce Harriman says that only "unreasonable defeatism" existing in the minds of some people supports a fear that America faces economic depression as soon as industry produces enough goods to fill buyers' demands that piled up during the war.

"I am convinced," the new member of President Truman's Cabinet said in an address prepared for the annual "New York Herald Tribune" forum, "that we (Americans) have the knowledge and ability to handle our affairs in such a way as to maintain a high level of employment with an expanding economy."

"Naturally, there must be certain periods of adjustment in specific products and, at times, periods of general readjustment. But Government, industry, labour leaders and farm groups have greater knowledge and understanding than ever before. Government can adopt policies which will directly assist in these adjustments."

Harriman said he is encouraged by hearing from both American industrial and labour leaders that they are fully aware of the necessity of finding constructive and peaceful means of working out their relationships.

Further encouragement comes, Harriman said, from the fact that the United States already has established a policy of international economic cooperation and now stands "ready to cooperate with all countries that are willing to work with us in this field."—Associated Press.

**PROTEST BY HUNGARY**

Budapest, Nov. 27.—Hungary has sent a note to the Big Four Foreign Ministers in New York and to the Czechoslovak Government, protesting against the alleged persecutions of Hungarians in Slovakia. It was learned here today. The note enumerated a series of incidents said to have occurred in the past week.

"It is true, as the honourable member has informed this Council, that there is another Bill under which the use of imitation firearms in the course of robbery or if found in the possession of persons when they are suspected, is an offence and is punishable.

"It should, however, be appreciated that this is not always possible. If a serious attempt is going to be made to prevent these weapons being used in the commission of robbery or for that matter for crimes of violence, then it is necessary to make the possession of them an offence."

"Prohibition of importation will not meet the Bill because it would not deal with those cases where importation has already been effected. It will also be observed that other colonies and countries will adopt similar legislation. Despite

the fact that Government has in this Bill made concessions by exempting juveniles from its provisions and there are also safeguards in relation to forfeiture.

**New Toy**

"With regard to the observation made by the honourable member as to permitting the weapons to be imported elsewhere, we do know that the Colony of Singapore has imposed similar legislation. We are not aware whether other countries or colonies are contemplating legislation of this kind. It may be ob-

served, however, that although this legislation in Singapore should and will be in Hong Kong when this Bill is enacted, the particular kind of toy pistol which gave rise to this legislation is also new. Nothing having the appearance of a real weapon has so far been introduced on the market, and it may well be that other colonies and countries will

follow suit. I think I can give the assurance of Government that if it becomes possible to permit the exportation of cargo which has been innocently introduced rather than to proceed with destruction, then every consideration will be given for taking that course."

Council then went into committee to discuss the Bill clause by clause, and upon resumption, upon the motion of the Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, the Bill became law. The Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo casting a dissentient vote.

## Morrison Stumped

London, Nov. 27.

When the Prime Minister was asked in the House of Commons today if he would consider trying to arrange a meeting of the Big Four to discuss and decide on the future of Palestine, Mr. Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, replying on the Prime Minister's behalf, said: "No, Sir."

Sir Thomas Moore (Conservative), who had raised the matter, asked why the Government con-

tinued to expose British soldiers

and civilians to "havoc murder"

in Palestine for an apparent re-

turn extent hatred from Jews,

distrust from Arabs and criticism

from the Allies.

Mr. Morrison said that that was an expression of sorrow,

"Then why do we go on doing it?" asked Sir Thomas Moore.

There was no reply.—Reuters.

## GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Fifty-third Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the Company, Exchange Building, Des Voeux Road Central, Victoria, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, 12th December, 1946, at NOON, for the purpose of confirming the appointment of the Board of Directors and receiving their Report together with Statements of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1945, and for the period 1st January, 1946, to 31st December, 1946.

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## NOTICE

### BATHING BEACHES

The Urban Council has

appointed a Committee to con-

sider the future use, develop-

ment and control of bathing

beaches in the Colony, including

the New Territories, and, in

particular, to advise as to the

facilities which should be pro-

vided by Government, or

granted by Government, or

private persons or associations.

Members of the public, re-

presentatives of clubs, associa-

tions etc., are hereby invited to

forward in writing to the

Secretary, Urban Council, any

expression of opinion on this



Next Flight:  
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## War Crime Policy Criticised

Singapore, Nov. 27.

The entire system of war crimes trials in Southeast Asia was described as "inefficient" in today's issue of the Singapore "Malayan Tribune," which criticised the policy of trying serious cases but releasing minor suspects.

Quoting the official review of the work of the war crimes courts which said that the number of suspects had been reduced from 9,000 in June to 4,500 today, the "Tribune" added: "In ten months, the courts have dealt with 518 of the accused, of whom 445 have been convicted and 182 sentenced to death."

"It will be surprising if in the end more than 800 of the accused pass through the courts—less than one in ten of the number arrested."

The explanation behind the "new policy" is a simple one. The whole system of war crimes trials in Southeast Asia has been inefficient so that finally there has been no option but to proceed against a few and let many go."

The official review declared that it would have been impracticable to bring 9,000 suspects to trial in a "reasonable" time.

Enter:

## GERMAN PRISONERS-- ON THE ROAD BACK

In the middle of the night of 19/20 September, 1944, one thousand five hundred sullen men under guard, tramped from Colchester North Station to Berchinchurch, a distance of some four miles, and were brought to a halt in a wide field encompassed by barbed wire. The night was very dark and the ground squelched with mud. There was no cover, and tentage had to be obtained from a supply dump a short distance away. When dawn broke, the men went about setting up the tents and drawing tinted rations. It was a cheerless scene; the men were wet and despondent; some thankful they were out of the hell that was Normandy; others highly indignant to find that everything had not been "laid on" for them; all wondering what captivity would be like.

For these were German prisoners, the first large body of men captured around Caen to be brought to the Eastern Command area. The following night they were joined by another 1,000, and by 24 September, over 6,000 of Hitler's Westwall defenders were encamped around Berchinchurch. Among them were men who had participated in the 1940 Blitzkrieg, "We March Against England" in the Paris cafes, and had been scheduled to land in Britain after the Luftwaffe had disposed of the Few.

## Not New

It was no new experience for historic Colchester to have alien troops in and around its Roman walls. Through all the years, its story is one of marching armies, beleaguered garrisons, fortified camps and confined prisoners. After three centuries of Roman occupation, Jute Saxons and Anglo-Saxons brought fire and slaughter to the city; later, the Danes' Black Army, with double-headed axe and sharp arrow massacred the entire townspeople. After Creasy, French prisoners of rank were held in the castle; Dutch soldiers, Scotsmen, religious malcontents and State prisoners have been imprisoned there at different periods. With the coming of the Hanoverian monarchs, even German mercenaries have been stationed there. Records show that in 1809, four squadrons of German cavalry were employed to suppress a rising of the militia at Ely, and there was a great outcry in the country when these foreigners were ordered to flog the leaders. More recently, when British troops left for the Crimea, troops from Hesse, known locally as the German legion, were quartered in Colchester.

## Two Years

Two years have passed since that wet night when the first remnants of the Wehrmacht reached Berchinchurch. The desolate meadow has become, in the words of Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, first German from Germany to visit 186 POW Camp, a "gilded cage." The tents have given way to rows of Nissen huts and brick buildings; concrete roads run where once muddy paths meandered; there are ornamental flower beds and vegetable gardens; it is all neat and trim. The sullen, despondent men themselves are changed; despite the barbed wire, the sense of frustration and injury, many of these men have learned much which was always closed to them; they find a new hope in the future.

And now they are on their way home to participate in the reconstruction of a new and, we hope, a better and peaceful Germany.

The Government recently announced its scheme for the accelerated repatriation of the 394,000 Germans held in Britain, a decision which has meant much at Berchinchurch, for 186 is the Base Transit Camp for the whole of Eastern Command, where men for repatriation are collected from other Commands, and every week 1,000 men pass through its gates on the road back.

## Priority

Priority in repatriation is given to those prisoners who were known to be anti-Nazis before 1939 or who have shown since a "positive democratic attitude" and are likely to play a useful part in the rehabilitation of Germany. For the most part such men are controlling prisoner groups or occupy other responsible positions. Next highest priority goes to workers, such as timber workers and miners, particularly those who have volunteered to work in the mines. A certain number get preferential treatment on compassionate grounds, and thereafter, the general criterion is length of service spent in captivity. Only those men whose homes are in the British Zone can at present

be sent, but agreement is being sought from the other controlling powers in Germany for the reception in their respective areas of men who were domiciled there. Unbending Nazis are not in the running at all; nor are high-ranking officers, whether or not they have political leanings.

By PETER LOVEGROVE

All told, some 16,000 men will go back every month, five times as many as in the past. The dispatch of all the prisoners will take 26 months, under these arrangements, but it is possible that it will be speeded up if sufficient regular shipping can be organized.

## Hard Cases

186 Camp does not only cater for these transient guests. It is the largest camp in Eastern Command and also holds a number of men who cannot work outside for a variety of reasons; some who are awaiting

**DAKOTA CRASHES**

Guatemala City, Nov. 28.

Twenty-two persons were killed when a LASCA aircraft plane crashed near Guatemala City on Tuesday, it was disclosed yesterday.

LASCA is a subsidiary of Pan American World Airways. The plane, a DC-3, was en route to San Jose, Costa Rica. — Associated Press.

ing distribution to labour-units; hard cases of Nazis labelled "Black"; a few in protected custody who may be arraigned as war criminals; and a number of officers of all ranks, from subalterns to a major-general. Total population over 6,000.

Prisoners do all the camp maintenance in this trim, well-laid, town-within-a-town. They bake their own bread, repair their own boots, do their own laundry, run their own shows and produce their own newspaper. The huts, shower, baths and drying rooms, and the roads were all built by German labour. "We're very proud of the results," said the Lagerfuehrer, a tall-looking grey-haired man of 50 from Munster, who served in 1939 '39 as a member of the Hanoverian monarchs, even German mercenaries have been stationed there. Records show that in 1809, four squadrons of German cavalry were employed to suppress a rising of the militia at Ely, and there was a great outcry in the country when these foreigners were ordered to flog the leaders. More recently, when British troops left for the Crimea, troops from Hesse, known locally as the German legion, were quartered in Colchester.

The men are most enthusiastic about their entertainment halls. The "Kleinkunst Bubne," variety-hall, was managed by a professional artist who has just been repatriated.

## Christian Teaching

One of the most important features of the camp is its religious instruction. There is a theological college, where suit-

## BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

### READ THE HEAD CLEARLY

It will pay a declarer, on all occasions, to analyze the opening lead and figure out as best he can just what each defender has in the suit chosen, also why he picked that suit instead of a different one. There are combinations of the cards which make it possible, occasionally, to place an amazing number of the hidden pasteboards, though only one has been seen.

S Q 7  
H K J 9  
D Q J 9 8 6  
C A K S

S 8 5 2  
N I S A J 10 6 4  
H A 4 2 W E H 8 5 3  
D 4 1 2 S D K 5  
C Q J 5 4 C 7 2

S K 9 3  
H Q 10 7  
D A 10 7  
C 10 9 8 6

(Dealer: North, North-South vulnerable.)

North East South West  
1D Pass 1NT Pass  
1D Pass SNT

When West led the spade 5, South almost automatically played the 7 from dummy, and East was smart enough to hold his A, using the 10. Afraid to take that and make himself vulnerable in the suit, South played low. East returned the 6 to the Q, which blanked South's K. Through a successful finesse, five diamonds were scored and two high clubs, but that made only eight tricks.

When South lost the lead to the heart A, West had a little spade to return to East.

(Dealer: North, East-West vulnerable.)

What desperate chance can South try seeking 3? No Trumps, after West leads the heart 7 to the J, East having made a spade bid?

• • •

Tomorrow's Problem

S 10 2  
H K J

D A K 10 9 8 6 2

C 19 7

S 4 H A Q 8 7 5 W E H 8 5 3  
D Q 7 3 S H G 5  
C J 6 5 4 C A 8 2

S K J 8 6  
H 10 9 4 2

D 4  
C K Q 9 8 3

(Dealer: North, East-West vulnerable.)

What desperate chance can

South try seeking 3? No

Trump, after West leads the

heart 7 to the J, East having

made a spade bid?

## CARNIVAL



"Of course I understand the nature of an oath! I'm your caddie, isn't I?"

## An Open Letter To Lady Cripps

Dear Lady Cripps.—On October 4 you set out from England after peace was declared in Europe. For just as in England they do not know much about life in Hong Kong, the rest of the world is not yet fully aware of Britain's continued privations, its stringent food rationing and its almost complete lack of "luxury" commodities.

Before you return to your Fund's London offices, Lady Cripps, why not make a tour of the Colony's public restaurants, hotels, shops and business premises all frequented by the wealthy and observe the casual air with which they rid themselves of dollars in the easy assurance that they have a great many more. Ching is a beautiful country and its hills rise proudly up to meet clear blue skies, but its people are filled with an almost belligerent national feeling. Britain's policy, together with the rest of the world, seems to be appeasement on every score. But I fail to see why poorly filled coffers at home should be emptied even more for the rehabilitation programme of a country which is not much more impoverished than our own.

From morning till night the Colony's roads feel the weight of dozens of expensive and streamlined limousines while along the sidewalks are lined the beggars, the "cumshaw" children, the destitutes and the old. Those of the Chinese who have money live well in our Colony, indeed they live like lords, domestically and socially, yet they least of all are tolerant of the plight of their own resourceless people.

The British Government in Hong Kong does its utmost in aiding where the Chinese fail to tread,

# LEGAL BATTLES OVER JEWS

## Petition Submitted For Writ Of Habeas Corpus

### Fate Of 4,000 To Be Decided

Jerusalem, Nov. 27. Several hundred Jewish spectators were unable to gain admittance to the heavily-guarded court room in Jerusalem today when the legal battle to decide the fate of the latest batch of illegal Jewish immigrants opened in the High Court of Justice.

The small court was crowded long before the three British judges, led by the Chief Justice, Sir William Fitzgerald, took their seats on the bench. Mr. Edward Goitein, Jewish barrister, submitted a petition asking the court to issue writs of Habeas Corpus "releasing 4,000 immigrants from unlawful custody."

Detention order against the refugees was issued yesterday after an order was granted by the High Court on Monday directing Mr. H.L.G. Gurney, Chief Secretary to the Palestine Government, and six high ranking military, naval and police officers, to show cause why the immigrants should not be released.

During a long legal argument in court, Mr. Goitein alleged that the deportation of immigrants constituted an "abuse of power by the Executive."

The Solicitor-General, Mr. J.B. Griffin, told the court that the public appeared to think the deportation of illegal Jewish immigrants was in defiance of the High Court.

"Nothing is further from the fact," he declared.

Mr. Griffin added that what the court had to decide was whether the immigrants now held in custody were being held lawfully from an Order-in-Council made in 1937, which empowered the High Commissioner, among other things, to make "deportation orders."

The Solicitor-General said: "The High Commissioner can make regulations or laws through this Order as seems fit to maintain the security of the country."

Mr. Gurney, Chief Secretary to the Palestine Government, stated in evidence that illegal immigrant ships were being brought into Palestine territorial waters so that anyone who could prove that he or she was proceeding to Palestine legally could come forward.

Mr. Goitein, referring to the detention order issued yesterday by the High Commissioner in respect of immigrants aboard the "Lochita," said: "This document decides the fate of more than 4,000 people. It is not a dead letter of the law."

He submitted that it was unlawful to take illegal immigrants on "prison ships" outside the three-mile territorial zone, keep them imprisoned on the high seas and detain them again in Cyprus.

He argued that jurisdiction of the British naval, military and police personnel did not extend to high seas.

"All this can be stopped by Habeas Corpus," Mr. Goitein said.

After a session lasting four hours the court rose to consider its judgment.—Reuter.

"If there has been any deception, it has been self-deception."—Associated Press.

### NO PARTITION WANTED

Hamburg, Nov. 27. The Munster Free Democratic Party Congress today passed a resolution expressing opposition to all attempts aimed at the partition of Schleswig-Holstein, the British News Service in Germany reports.

"We demand a united Schleswig-Holstein because we do not want enmity between Germans and Danes," said the resolution, which declared that the partition proposed by the Danish Foreign Minister was "contrary to the interests of efficient administration and to the old-established rights of the province. Partition would only hamper the peaceful democratic development," Reuter.

### RUMANIAN ELECTIONS PROTEST

Washington, Nov. 26.

The U.S. Government today refused recognition of the results of the Rumanian elections and accused the Rumanian Government of using terrorism and manipulation of electoral registers in conducting last week's polling.

Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson said in a statement:

"The State Department have now received extensive reports concerning the conduct of those elections and information contained therein makes it abundantly clear that as a result of manipulation of electoral registers, the procedure followed in the balloting and counting of votes as well as by intimidation through terrorism of large Democratic elements of the electorate, the franchise on that occasion was effectively denied to an important section of the population."

"Consequently the United States Government cannot regard these elections as in compliance with the assurances given by the Rumanian Government to the United States, United Kingdom and USSR Governments in implementation of the Moscow decision."

He submitted that it was unlawful to take illegal immigrants on "prison ships" outside the three-mile territorial zone, keep them imprisoned on the high seas and detain them again in Cyprus.

He argued that jurisdiction of the British naval, military and police personnel did not extend to high seas.

"All this can be stopped by Habeas Corpus," Mr. Goitein said.

After a session lasting four hours the court rose to consider its judgment.—Reuter.

"If there has been any deception, it has been self-deception."—Associated Press.

### ECONOMIC CONFERENCE PROPOSALS

London, Nov. 27. The London Economic Conference has made no less than 23 recommendations regarding inter-Governmental commodity agreements.

These mostly follow the familiar lines though there are a few surprises.

One is that member countries should accept the decision of the International Trade Organization on whether their continued participation in the existing commodity agreements is consistent with their obligations.

This would apparently apply to the existing international wheat, tea and sugar schemes. The rubber and tin schemes have already ended, and even the wheat, tea and sugar schemes are in abeyance. The steps for making a new commodity agreement are to be:

1. A study group.
2. A conference.
3. Formation of a governing body.

Other provisions are full

publicly measures to expand consumption where practicable,

consideration of shortages as

well as surpluses, equal re-

presentation for importing and

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Lake Success, N.Y. Nov. 27. The United Nations Political Committee adopted by a vote of 33 to 17, with two abstentions, the first paragraph of the British resolution, which "considers that items four and five on the agenda (troops census and armaments, respectively) are concerned with two aspects of the same question of reduction and regulation of armament."

The Committee adopted by 36 votes to 12, with four abstentions, the second paragraph of the British resolution, which says "as the first step in the study of this question and to assist in the implementation of Article 43, the Committee propose that the Assembly recommend all members of the United Nations to furnish the following information to the Secretary-General for communication to the Security Council and other members of the United Nations for publication."

The Committee adopted without opposition the two points originated by the Soviet delegation of armed forces in the territory of members of the United Nations.

M. Molotov, of Russia, said he had no objection to insertion in this clause of the words "including the military type of formation."

The Committee also adopted, without opposition, the two points originated by the Soviet delegation of including in the reports of forces in ex-enemy states all information regarding air and naval bases.

The Russian delegate interrupted the voting on that part of the British resolution asking for a census of all troops at home and abroad to propose an amendment asking the United Nations to reveal the nature of armaments, such as atomic bombs, rocket weapons, flying bombs and others."

**Objections**

Both Mr. Philip Noel-Baker (Britain) and Senator Tom Connally (United States) objected to M. Molotov's new amendment at such a late stage in the voting.

The Committee adopted the British proposal to include in the troops' census home territories by 40 votes to ten, with two abstentions.

The Political Committee decided by 25 votes to 19, with seven abstentions, to accept the United States amendment to the British proposal making the effective date for the report December 15.—Reuter.

#### SURPRISE AMENDMENT

Lake Success, Nov. 27. Opposing the British proposal that troop data submitted to the United Nations should be verified in the spot by United Nations inspection agency, M. Molotov had noted that the United States had opposed it and added, "the Soviet Union will accept any decision taken by the United Kingdom and the United States. If they are both agreeable to control, the Soviet Union will agree to this."

Mr. Byrnes is understood to have suggested the holding of "top secret" meetings of this kind so as to avoid the day to day press reports which might tend to give undue prominence to the concessions made by M. Molotov.

The Council of Ministers agreed not to divulge the details of yesterday's meeting.—Reuter.

#### CLAIM REJECTED

Lake Success, N.Y. Nov. 27. The United States today rejected the Soviet claim that the United Nations Security Council should have control of fortifications in strategic trusteeship territories.

The United States delegate, Mr. John Dulles, said in the Trusteeship Committee: "The

# NAVY LEAVES ALEXANDRIA

London, Nov. 28. An Admiralty spokesman announced yesterday that all Naval personnel, with the exception of four radio operators, have been withdrawn from Alexandria, Britain's biggest wartime Mediterranean Naval base.

The spokesman added that evacuation has been taking place for some time and that the movement of installations, men, material and ships was completed yesterday. He was unable to say immediately how many men were involved.

The evacuation, he declared, was in accordance with a British undertaking to Egypt to withdraw all military and naval forces

from Cairo, Alexandria and the Nile Valley by March 31 next.

The British delegation negotiating the revision of the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of 1936 announced on May 7 that British forces would move from Alexandria, Cairo and the Nile Valley.

Most of the British warships based in Alexandria during the war had already been withdrawn before yesterday's operations began. They moved to Malta, Cyprus and Haifa.

Ships that have been moved since May included one aircraft carrier, four cruisers, one destroyer and three submarines, the spokesman declared.

Alexandria was first used as a British Naval base when Italy invaded Abyssinia in October, 1939. But the 1936 treaty between Britain and Egypt ruled that Alexandria was to cease being a garrison town, and that it could be used as a Naval base by Britain only with Egypt's special permission.

In the years immediately before the war, the harbour was improved with dry-dock accommodation and the installation of a huge floating dock with a lifting capacity of 60,000 tons.

Alexandria was recognized as Britain's principal and safest wartime base in the Mediterranean during the second world war. Less than 2,000 miles from Brindisi, nearest Italian port, it was a common target for Axis bombers based variously in Italy, Crete, Tripoli and Rhodes Island.

—Associated Press.

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### HONG KONG SERVICES RACE CLUB - THE FINAL MEETING

#### PROCEEDS TO CHARITIES

will be held at

**HAPPY VALLEY RACE COURSE  
ON SUNDAY, 1st DECEMBER**

**FIRST SADDLING BELL 2.00 P.M.  
FIRST RACE STARTS AT 2.30 P.M.**

(Attention is drawn to the alteration of times)

The Programme will include—

1st Race—THE ROYAL AIR FORCE CUP

2nd Race—THE ARMY CUP

3rd Race—THE UNITED SERVICES CUP

4th Race—THE GOVERNOR'S CUP

5th Race—THE ROYAL NAVAL CUP

**CASH SWEEPS** The usual "Through" numbers (\$10) may be obtained at the Office of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Exchange Building, First floor.

**TÖTE DOUBLE** on the 2nd and 4th Races.

**ENTRANCE** — (Public Enclosure \$1.00 including Tax  
(Members Enclosure \$3.00))

#### LUNCH

A limited number of lunches for Members of the Hong Kong Jockey Club will be available in the Coffee Room. Tables should be booked in advance with the No. 1 Box at the Club House, Happy Valley, Tel. 2821.

There are a limited number of Boxes available, for which application should be made to Post to the Clerk of the Course. (Lt.-Col. J. R. Edgar, M.B.E., H.Q., R.E.M.E., Land Forces)—enclosing a remittance for \$25. Tickets cannot be issued until payment is received.

Major H. M. R. HODGMAN,  
Hon. Secretary, H.K.S.C.

BY COURTESY OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB



**"AVLON"**

Brand of

**MEPACRINE METHANESULPHONATE B.P.**

Used in the Prophylaxis and Treatment of

**MALARIA**

Stock available in

0.12 gm. AMPULES in boxes of 25

0.36 gm. AMPULES in boxes of 6 & 25

**"SULPHAMEZATHINE"**

Brand of

**SULPHADIMETHYL PYRIDIMIDE**

Used in the Treatment of

**PNEUMONIA — MENINGITIS — &c.**

Stock available in

0.5 gm. TABLETS in bottles of

SHOWING TO-DAY QUEEN'S At 2.30, 5.15,  
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.  
★ BETTY GRABLE  
★ JOHN PAYNE  
★ CARMEN MIRANDA  
★ HARRY JAMES AND HIS MUSIC MAKERS  
★ CESAR ROMERO

They're dancing on top of the world...to the melody of love in their hearts!

SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES Charlotte Greenwood • Edward Everett Horton Directed by Irving Cummings • Produced by William Le Baron Screen Play by Walter Baldwin • Adaptation by Jerome Thery 20th CENTURY FOX TECHNICOLOR

SHOWING TO-DAY KINGS At 2.30, 5.10,  
7.15, & 9.15 p.m.

EAGLE-LION PRESENTS REX HARRISON IN

## 'THE RAKE'S PROGRESS'

With LILLI PALMER \* JEAN KENT  
GRIFFITH JONES  
MARGARET JOHNSTON \* MARIE LOHN  
GARRY MARSH

\* ALSO GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS\*

NEXT CHANGE : IN "KEEP 'EM FLYING"  
A Universal Picture

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA  
DAILY AT 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
DAILY AT 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
TO-DAY & TO-MORROW



Commencing Sunday! "OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY"

ORIENTAL  
Showing To-Day: 2.30 - 5.15 - 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.  
THE TRUE STORY OF EVERY WOMAN'S FIGHTING MAN

Lester Cowan presents ERNIE PYLES "STORY OF G.I. JOE"  
BURGESS MEREDITH ERNIE PYLES Robert Mitchum - The Captain  
Yours for Linda - the girl of this picture  
Starring

CATHAY TODAY ONLY  
2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.  
IS there always a SEVENTH VEIL between a woman and the men who love her?  
"THE SEVENTH VEIL"  
Starring James MASON - Ann TODD

TO-MORROW  
"WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?"  
IN TECHNICOLOR

# BRITAIN'S CONCERN OVER FUTURE OF INDIA

London, Nov. 27. Lord Pethick Lawrence, Secretary of State of India, made the following statement in the House of Lords today: "The British Government have invited Lord Wavell to come to this country for consultation with regard to the political situation in India and have requested him to invite two representatives of the Indian National Congress, two representatives of the Moslem League and one representative of the Sikh community to accompany him. We are still in communication with the parties, and I can therefore say nothing further at present. The House will be aware that Dr. Jinnah, President of the Moslem League, has stated that Moslem League representatives will not attend the Constituent Assembly, as set up on the basis proposed by the Cabinet Mission, which is due to meet on December 9.

This situation is mainly due to differences in view between Congress and the Moslem League as to interpretation of certain provisions in the Cabinet Mission statement of May 16.

The purpose of the proposed discussions is to endeavour to reach a common understanding between the two major parties on the basis on which the work of the Assembly can proceed with the cooperation of all parties."

Meanwhile, Fraser Wighton, Reuters Political Correspondent, says that official London sources today stated that acceptan-

ces are still awaited to the Viceroy's invitations to the Congress and Moslem League.

While news from New Delhi suggesting that Congress leaders' first reaction to the proposals was unfavourable may be accurate, it is understood in informed quarters that the Viceroy will do everything in his power to obtain the co-operation of Congress in the discussions.

### "Bold Step"

The first reactions of all parties in Parliament to the British Government's invitation are of satisfaction of what is described as a "bold step."

### GOVERNMENT DEFEATED

London, Nov. 27.

The Government was defeated by 45 votes to 13 in the House of Lords today where the Opposition has a big majority—on a motion by Lord Templewood, Conservative, calling for immediate and comprehensive penal reform.

Earlier this year it was reported that the Government planned to bring in a measure similar to that prepared just before the war by Lord Templewood (then Sir Samuel Hoare), but it was not included in this year's legislative programme. Lord Templewood declared that a modern national penal system had no place for corporal punishment.—Reuters.

Mr. Reginald Sorenson, Member of the Parliamentary delegation to India, said: "I am very glad indeed to hear that the Viceroy and representatives of the major parties are to visit this country and trust most earnestly that this will not only lead to a deeper understanding between the Moslem League and Congress, but also between Indians and this country. I am sure they will come to the belief that the Labour Government is in earnest in its deep desire that the transition to a new and independent India shall be unaccompanied by rancour or violence."

Sir Stanley Reed, Conservative and former editor of the "Times of India," said: "Those who desire above all to serve India have viewed developments with feelings akin to dismay. They nourish the hope, perhaps a vain hope, that working together in a coalition, Congress Party and Moslem League with their Sikh colleagues and representatives of the Scheduled Castes will learn the wisdom and fruitfulness of cooperation and from this will proceed in that spirit to the great work of the Constituent Assembly, which will establish things to come in India possibly for generations."

### Deep Desire

The Labour journalist M.P. Mr. Michael Foot, said: "Every one is deeply concerned about (Continued at foot of next col.)

**MAJESTIC**  
SHOWING TO-DAY  
2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

Stan LAUREL  
Oliver HARDY  
IN

"AIR RAID  
WARDENS"

Air M-G-M Picture

NEXT CHANGE  
Barbara STANWICK  
Henry FONDA  
IN

"YOU BELONG to ME"

**Criticisms**

Mr. Godfrey Nicholson, another member of the Conservative India Committee, said: "I am delighted to learn that the Government are not waiting for disaster before trying to take steps to prevent it. I feel the Conservative Party will make no criticisms that are not constructive. At the same time, I cannot help feeling that too much concentration upon political manoeuvre and negotiation may tend to obscure the fact that actions in the political field cannot avail unless steps are taken to see that the whole administrative machine is strengthened and has confidence restored to it. For there cannot be any doubt that the coming months will be period of unprecedented strain. Our mistake in the past may well have been that we have concentrated too much upon the problem of administration to the exclusion, or partial exclusion, of the political life. Do not let us fall into the opposite error now."—Reuters.

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**A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE**

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**SAILINGS TO**

"ANHUI" Amoy, Swatow, Saigon, Singapore & Penang  
7 am. 1st Dec.

"SINKIANG" Amoy & Shanghai 7 am. 4th Dec.

"FOOCHEW" Singapore, Batavia & Macassar 2 pm. 4th Dec.

"HANYANG" Shanghai 4 pm. 8th Dec.

**ARRIVALS FROM**

"HUPEH" Tientsin, Tsingtao, Foochow & Swatow 5th Dec.

**CANTON RIVER LINE**

"FATSHAN" Sail 7 a.m. 30th Nov.  
Arrives 1:30 p.m. 2nd Dec.

Sails 3 a.m. 4th Dec.  
Arrives 3:30 p.m. 6th Dec.

**Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE****U.K. SERVICE**

Arriving From

5th Dec. "U.K. via Straits." — do —

Sailing For

10th Dec. L'pool via Straits

**NEW YORK SERVICE**

Arriving From

"ADRASSTUS" Mid Dec. New York

**Agents: Australian-Oriental Line, Ltd.**

Arriving From

2nd Dec. Australia via Straits

2nd Dec. Australia via Kuro

13th Dec. Australia

Sailing For

5th Dec. Sydney

21st Dec. Sydney, Melbourne

All The Above Subject To Alteration Without Notice.

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**DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.****S.S. "HAIYANG"**

Sailing for Swatow and Foochow

On or about 4th December

Subject to alteration without notice.

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S.S. "BENLEDI" 1st half Jan.

**ARRIVALS**

S.S. "TREWORLAS" (Ben Line BERTH) on or about 7th Dec.

S.S. "EMPIRE RAJA" (Ben Line BERTH) 10th Dec.

S.S. "BENVOELICH" 10th Dec.

S.S. "BENLEDI" Late Dec.

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Telephones: 20164, 20131.

**Italian****Silk Industry On Road To Recovery****AIR AGREEMENT**

London, Nov. 23  
A new Anglo-Swedish air agreement was announced here yesterday by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, allowing for the operation, on a reciprocal basis, of civil air services to, through and from Britain and Sweden.

G. S. Lindgren, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry, signed for the United Kingdom, and B. G. Pritz, Swedish Minister in London for Sweden. — Associated Press.

The Italian silk industry rapidly is progressing toward normal activity and it now appears probable that silk will constitute one of Italy's principal exports.

The silk industry has made greater progress than other industries because the majority of its factories were not damaged seriously during the war.

Dr. Giorgio Miceli, secretary of the Italian spinning association, told Associated Press that large quantities of silk already have been exported.

During the first months of 1946, Dr. Miceli said, 700,000 kilograms of raw silk were exported to North America for approximately \$11,000,000. Exports of silk to Britain during 1946 totaled approximately 150,000 kilograms.

It is estimated that the new crop of cocoons will total 2,000,000 kilograms.

In addition to this raw silk there are large supplies of cloth for neckties and fibre for stockings. — Associated Press.

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HONG KONG, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1946.

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## DEBATE ON DEMOB RATE Mr. Attlee Replies To Critics

The following is a detailed report of the House of Commons debate on the Prime Minister's speech dealing with the demobilisation of British troops serving abroad:

Mr. Anthony Eden (Conservative): "While I do not want to contest the list of present commitments to which the Prime Minister has referred, I feel that we must now add to them the deteriorating situation in India. There are two questions I would like to put to him. As he will be aware one of the most important sources of discontent is the feeling among the men who have served long periods dating from the war, that they were being asked to continue that service, while those replacing them will have to serve for much shorter period. Will he attempt to meet this by evening that contrast up?"

"The second question has relation to reserved occupations. There were many reserved occupations which had to be created for the winning of the war, but it is not easy to persuade serving soldiers that these reserved occupations must remain exactly as they then were. Can anything be done to ensure that those in reserved occupations are reduced to the absolute minimum for the national need and that the others can do their service as others did in the war?"

No Blunder

The Prime Minister: "We do not want to call up people for longer periods than are necessary. People who are called up now will not be serving as long periods as those who had to serve during the war. I will look into the second point to see if anything can be done as to reserved occupations. We are trying to get relief by calling up everybody except those who are absolutely essential at the present time."

Mr. Herbert Hughes (Lab.): "It was stated in the White Paper on call up that men serving in the services on 31st of December 1946, will be released before the end of 1946. Will he assure us that the statement still stands?"

The Prime Minister: "That is our aim."

Viscount Hinchinbrooke (Con.): "Is he aware of the colossal blunder which the Government committed in having to demobilise the services of this country down below the safety limit and that having to re-adjust it upwards afterwards involves consequent hardship to our serving men?"

The Prime Minister: "No, there was no blunder. Perhaps he will remember the line taken by the opposition on demobilisation."

Much Discontent

Mr. Shurmer (Lab.): "It is not sympathy the wives and parents want, it is their husbands and sons and owing to this holdup, many of the men serving in the Middle East who would have been eligible for leave will have to spend their 4th or 5th Christmas away from home, as a result of the slow up in demobilisation. It is not good enough."

The Prime Minister: "I will certainly look into that question of leave I think I have fully explained the reason and the fact that, when we have a target we said that must necessarily depends on circumstances."

Brigadier Head (Con.): Is he aware that if this statement had been made 2 or 3 weeks earlier

## Laski's Duel With Eminent K.C.

(Continued from Page 1)  
Referring to Professor Laski's book "Reflection on the Revolution of Our Time," Sir Patrick asked: "Is the underlying feature of the book that while war is on there is a chance of revolution by consent but as soon as war is over the chance of consent is gone?"

Professor Laski: "Diminished."

Hastings: "Gone, I say."

Laski: "I say diminished."

Hastings: "Do you accept the word 'gone'?"

Laski: "No, diminished."

Air Chief's Evidence

Later, Professor Laski declared: "I should say that the arrival of the Labour Party in power had reinforced the possibility of the continuance of the revolution by consent which I had looked for as a solution of our problems."

At the end of Professor Laski's cross-examination, which lasted nearly four hours, evidence was interposed of Air Vice-Marshal H. V. Champion de Crespigny, Governor of Schleswig Holstein and Labour candidate for whom Professor Laski was speaking in Newark at the time of the alleged libel.

Crespigny said that he heard questions put by Mr. Wentworth Day to Professor Laski but did not hear Professor Laski mention revolution by violence in his replies.

"I am quite sure that Professor Laski did not make that statement otherwise I should have paid particular attention to it," he declared.—Reuter.

## BILLS BECOME LAW

Five Bills became law as they passed their second and third reading in Legislative Council yesterday. They were: The Hong Kong Police Reserve Amendment Ordinance 1946; The Merchant Shipping Amendment Ordinance 1946; The Tallyclerk (Licensing) Ordinance 1946; The Summary Offences Amendment Ordinance 1946; The Meals and Intoxicating Liquors Tax Ordinance 1946.

All the Bills were moved by the Hon. Attorney General and seconded by the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

## NERO FIDDLING?

New York, Nov. 28.—The South African Indian Congress delegation in New York issued a statement today, saying that intervention by the United Nations was "imperative" and that British soldiers will not be used against British soldiers."

The Speaker called on Mr. C. Taylor (Con.), but Mr. Gallacher demanded to have an answer and there was some interruption.

The Speaker: "Mr. Gallacher put an argument, not a question!"

Mr. Gallacher and there were loud cries of "Order."

## RADIO

ZBWB Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 945 kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.15 p.m., 7.30 to 8.30 p.m., and 9.15 to 11.00 p.m. also on 6.52 megacycles.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.32 p.m.—Charlie Barnett & His Orchestra; The Ink Spots.

1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.

1.15 p.m.—"Candid Camera" and "Fusilli"—Variety.

1.30 p.m.—Piano Duets; Ragtime and Landauer.

1.45 p.m.—Richard Strauss—Tone Poem "Don Juan."

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.30 p.m.—Bob and Blue Crooky.

7.00 p.m.—"London Tonight" Albert Bandier—Palace Court Orchestra.

7.30 p.m.—Studio Lulu Rhythm at the Piano.

8.00 p.m.—London Relay News.

8.15 p.m.—Romance and Rhythms.

8.30 p.m.—Variety Requests.

8.30 p.m.—London Transcription Service: "The English Theatre No. 11" —"Moral Hall"; Solos; Yehudi Menuhin.

9.45 p.m.—"London Tonight" Solos; Yehudi Menuhin.

10.00 p.m.—London Relay News.

10.05 p.m.—"The Gondoliers" An Abridged version of Gilbert & Sullivan's Light Opera.

10.45 p.m.—Mengsburg's Concert Orch.

11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

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## "Lisbon Maru" Verdict This Morning

"The widows and children of the 843 men who lost their lives are looking to this Court, confident that justice will be done, without fear and without affection." With these words, Major Vine concluded his closing address at No. 5 War Crimes Court yesterday, when the trial came to an end. The findings of the Court of Kyoda Shigeru, master of the "Lisbon Maru," came to an end. The findings of the Court will be pronounced at 10.30 a.m. today.

The closing address by the Defence was read by Captain Kestiff, who said in part: "In peace time, the master of any Japanese merchant vessel is in complete charge and his word is law. In war time his authority is limited when his ship has been requisitioned by the Army. In this case, the master's role is restricted to navigation only, while the O.C. Troops in transit is in full charge of all matters and in exceptional circumstances should he think fit so to do, may interfere even in navigation matters. Regarding the issuing of orders, the master may command only members of his crew, while O.C. Troops in transit may give orders to everybody, including the master and his crew."

"To clarify the matter of obedience to orders given by the Imperial Japanese Army, the following extract from Field Service Regulations are quoted:

"Military discipline lies in obedience. Therefore it is necessary to make all servicemen thrown down their lines for their superiors sincerely and faithfully and abide by the orders of their superiors. The above should be cultivated at their second nature."

"An order given by the Army is considered to be an order which should be carried out absolutely without fail. A civilian attached to the Army, like ordinary servicemen, can never be excused from disobeying an order."

Addressing the Court, in reply, Major Vine said, inter-

vened: "The accused is therefore before you in order that you may determine the extent to which he was criminally responsible for the loss of 843 British lives after the torpedoing of the "Lisbon Maru."

"He has prostituted his profession and bowed low to a military idol without regard to the higher principles of his calling. If you find the facts in the case for the prosecution proved, then Kyoda Shigeru has brought unutterable disgrace upon the most noble traditions of the sea. The widows and children of the 843 men who lost their lives are looking to this Court, confident that justice will be done, without fear and without affection."

The Chinese community of Hong Kong yesterday gave public expression to their warm admiration and esteem for Lady Cripps when she feted her at a large reception at the Hong Kong Hotel Roof Garden.

The function was sponsored by the three Chinese members of Legislative Council, and every section of the community was represented. In addition there was a large number of distinguished guests among whom were Miss Nora Young and the Governor's ADC, Lieutenant Parkinson, members of the Executive and Legislative Councils and leading business men and a large sprinkling of ladies.

The Hon. Mr. T. N. Chau, on behalf of the hosts, extended a warm welcome to Lady Cripps and her party of co-workers. Chinese, wherever they were, would always remember with gratitude what the BUAC and Lady Cripps did for China's suffering millions to bring them succour in their most trying hour. Such noble and selfless efforts did more than anything else to cement the close friendship subsisting between Great Britain and China, and at a time when mutual understanding and goodwill were needed above all things Lady Cripps had come to China as an ambassador of goodwill to bring closer together the two peoples.

Bishop Hall who next spoke recalled his first visit to Lady Cripps in England in June 1942 when he was persuaded to head an organisation that was to play so important a part in bringing two peoples so much closer together.

In Absolute Control

"The master is charged with the duty of transporting personnel aboard safely to their destination. He must use his judgment and professional knowledge in the attainment of that object. It would be absurd to suggest that he should take any measures, except as an ordinary necessity, which would prejudice the safe arrival of his passengers. He is duty bound to do all in his power towards the fulfilment of the principal object."

"Although he cannot issue a military order, a Japanese master is no ordinary civilian. He is accorded the respect and privileges due to a Company Commander. He is in absolute control of his crew, numbering in the case of the "Lisbon Maru," 11 officers and men.

"I have not deemed it relevant to determine by what means he enforces discipline amongst his crew. The practice in the British Merchant Marine is to charge refusal of orders before Civil Court and the master has full power to place a recalcitrant seaman in irons until port is reached."

"A master mariner has undergone a long training in his calling. He is qualified by his experience to know the methods to be taken to combat a maritime emergency. It is arrant nonsense to suggest that to this Court that a military officer untrained in the ways of the sea should pit his judgment against that of the master."

New Danger

"This case has succeeded in bringing to light a state of affairs which would never have been tolerated in any country but Japan. A new danger on the high seas has been brought to the light of day. The position must be altered. The Japanese Government must declare that the master of any vessel is the sole authority in matters affecting the safety of his ship and those on board. It must be clearly laid down that the duties of the O.C. Troops

addition to the duties specified above, Hong Kong, \$0.40 (\$0.20); Empire, \$0.40 (\$0.20); other, \$0.50 (\$0.30)."

Chinese type liquor, Hong Kong, \$4 (\$2); Empire, \$4 (\$2); other, \$5 (\$3), and in addition, for every 1% by which the alcoholic strength by weight exceeds 25%, Hong Kong, \$0.16 (\$0.08); Empire, \$0.16 (\$0.08); other, \$0.20 (\$0.12).

Sake, Hong Kong, \$4 (\$2); Empire, \$4 (\$2); other, \$5 (\$3), and in addition, for every 1% by which the alcoholic strength by weight exceeds 25%, Hong Kong, \$0.16 (\$0.08); Empire, \$0.16 (\$0.08); other, \$0.20 (\$0.12).

Liquors other than intoxicating liquors, Hong Kong, \$4 (\$2); Empire, \$4 (\$2); other, \$5 (\$3), and in addition, for every 1% by which the alcoholic strength by weight exceeds 25%, Hong Kong, \$0.16 (\$0.08); Empire, \$0.16 (\$0.08); other, \$0.20 (\$0.12).

Spirits of wine or arrack, Hong Kong, \$4 (\$2); Empire, \$4 (\$2); other, \$5 (\$3), and in addition, for every 1% by which the alcoholic strength by weight exceeds 25%, Hong Kong, \$0.16 (\$0.08); Empire, \$0.16 (\$0.08); other, \$0.20 (\$0.12).

Concentrated beer in whatever form, whether ale basis, or malt and hops concentrate or otherwise, Hong Kong, \$1.15 (\$0.90); Empire, \$1.15 (\$0.90); other, \$1.90 (\$1.20), and in addition, for every 1% by which the original gravity exceeds 1056 degrees, Hong Kong, \$0.03 (\$0.02); Empire, \$0.04 (\$0.03); other, \$0.05 (\$0.04).

Other beer, except cider and Perry, not exceeding 1056 degrees original gravity, Hong Kong, \$1 (\$0.80); Empire, \$1.15 (\$0.90); other, \$1.90 (\$1.20), and in addition, for every 1% by which the original gravity exceeds 1056 degrees, Hong Kong, \$0.03 (\$0.02); Empire, \$0.04 (\$0.03); other, \$0.05 (\$0.04).

Cider, Empire, origin and manufacture, \$4.50 (\$3); Empire manufacture only, \$3.90 (\$2.80); other, \$4.80 (\$3.20).

Other manufactured tobacco, including snuff and cigar buttins, of Empire, origin and manufacture, \$3.80 (\$2.20); Empire manufacture only, \$3.20 (\$1.80); Chinese prepared tobacco, \$3 (\$2); other varieties, \$4 (\$2.50).

## SPORTS SECTION

## First Test Match At Brisbane To-Day

### England's Soccer Victory

London, Nov. 27.

In a Soccer match played at Huddersfield today, England beat Holland by eight goals to two, after leading 6-1 at haltime.

In another fixture, Oxford University lost to Wolverhampton Wanderers by four clear goals, failing to register a single goal against the First Division team.

In the Rugby Union County Championship, the Eastern Counties beat Hampshire by nine points to three, while Middlesex beat Kent by six points to nil.

Cambridge University, playing against an international team, went down 18 points to 15.—Reuter.

Hammond, who had not made any big scores lately, batted at both sessions, while it was interesting to see Evans behind the stumps wearing pads and gloves.

Within the next few hours the England-selectors will make their Test choice and their decision whether Gibb or Evans shall keep wicket is the most vital one they will be called upon to make. Both have been guilty of costly mistakes during the tour, but many consider Evans superior.

High Scoring Expected

Provided the M.C.C. wicket-keeping comes up to real Test standard, it is not considered the English bowlers will let the side down in the Test, which promises mammoth totals by both sides.

There is no question that Hutton will be completely fit. He had recovered today from his chill, and only continued to rest as a precautionary measure. He turned out for practice once during the afternoon.

All the players looked very well, including Bradman. He travelled by train from Adelaide and was the last to arrive. Tribe caused some surprise by clean bowling Bradman with the second ball sent down to the Australian captain.